



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2010

LCO No. 5746

HB0542205746HD0

Offered by:

REP. FLEISCHMANN, 18th Dist.

REP. CANDELARIA, 95th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **5422**

File No. 373

Cal. No. 206

"AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES."

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Section 10-198a of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

5 (a) For purposes of this section, "truant" means a child age five to
6 eighteen, inclusive, who is enrolled in a public or private school and
7 has four unexcused absences from school in any one month or ten
8 unexcused absences from school in any school year.

9 (b) Each local and regional board of education shall adopt and
10 implement policies and procedures concerning truants who are
11 enrolled in schools under the jurisdiction of such board of education.
12 Such policies and procedures shall include, but need not be limited to,
13 the following: (1) The holding of a meeting with the parent of each

14 child who is a truant, or other person having control of such child, and
15 appropriate school personnel to review and evaluate the reasons for
16 the child being a truant, provided such meeting shall be held not later
17 than ten school days after the child's fourth unexcused absence in a
18 month or tenth unexcused absence in a school year, (2) coordinating
19 services with and referrals of children to community agencies
20 providing child and family services, (3) annually at the beginning of
21 the school year and upon any enrollment during the school year,
22 notifying the parent or other person having control of each child
23 enrolled in a grade from kindergarten to eight, inclusive, in the public
24 schools in writing of the obligations of the parent or such other person
25 pursuant to section 10-184, (4) annually at the beginning of the school
26 year and upon any enrollment during the school year, obtaining from
27 the parent or other person having control of each child in a grade from
28 kindergarten to eight, inclusive, a telephone number or other means of
29 contacting such parent or such other person during the school day and
30 (5) a system of monitoring individual unexcused absences of children
31 in grades kindergarten to eight, inclusive, which shall provide that
32 whenever a child enrolled in school in any such grade fails to report to
33 school on a regularly scheduled school day and no indication has been
34 received by school personnel that the child's parent or other person
35 having control of the child is aware of the pupil's absence, a reasonable
36 effort to notify, by telephone and by mail, the parent or such other
37 person shall be made by school personnel or volunteers under the
38 direction of school personnel. Such mailed notice shall be a written
39 letter and include a warning that two unexcused absences from school
40 in a month or five unexcused absences in a school year may result in a
41 complaint filed with the Superior Court pursuant to subsection (a) of
42 section 46b-149 alleging that acts or omissions of the child are such that
43 the child is from a family with service needs. Any person who, in good
44 faith, gives or fails to give notice pursuant to subdivision (5) of this
45 subsection shall be immune from any liability, civil or criminal, which
46 might otherwise be incurred or imposed and shall have the same
47 immunity with respect to any judicial proceeding which results from
48 such notice or failure to give such notice.

49 (c) If the parent or other person having control of a child who is a
50 truant fails to attend the meeting held pursuant to subdivision (1) of
51 subsection (b) of this section or if such parent or other person
52 otherwise fails to cooperate with the school in attempting to solve the
53 truancy problem, such policies and procedures shall require the
54 superintendent of schools to file, not later than thirty calendar days
55 after such failure to attend such meeting or such failure to cooperate
56 with the school attempting to solve the truancy problem, for each such
57 truant enrolled in the schools under his jurisdiction a written
58 complaint with the Superior Court pursuant to section 46b-149 alleging
59 the belief that the acts or omissions of the child are such that his family
60 is a family with service needs.

61 (d) Nothing in subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of this section shall
62 preclude a local or regional board of education from adopting policies
63 and procedures pursuant to this section which exceed the
64 requirements of said subsections.

65 (e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any child
66 receiving equivalent instruction pursuant to section 10-184.

67 Sec. 502. (*Effective July 1, 2010*) On or before July 1, 2011, the State
68 Board of Education shall define "excused absence" and "unexcused
69 absence" for use by local and regional boards of education for the
70 purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 10-198a of the general
71 statutes, as amended by this act, and for the purpose of reporting
72 truancy, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-220 of the general
73 statutes.

74 Sec. 503. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions
75 of subsection (m) of section 10-145b of the general statutes, for the
76 school year commencing July 1, 2010, those teachers (1) who began in a
77 beginning educator program, pursuant to section 10-145b of the
78 general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2009, but have
79 not completed that program as of July 1, 2009, and participate in the
80 teacher education and mentoring program, pursuant to section 10-145o

81 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, during the 2010-2011
82 school year, (2) who are not eligible for a provisional educator
83 certificate because such teachers have not completed the teacher
84 education and mentoring program, and (3) whose initial educator
85 certificate is due to be renewed, shall not be responsible for paying the
86 State Board of Education the nonreturnable fee of two hundred dollars
87 for reissuance of such teacher's initial educator certificate.

88 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (m) of section 10-
89 145b of the general statutes, for the school year commencing July 1,
90 2010, those teachers (1) who began in a beginning educator program,
91 pursuant to section 10-145b of the general statutes, revision of 1958,
92 revised to January 1, 2009, but have not completed that program as of
93 July 1, 2009, and participate in the teacher education and mentoring
94 program, pursuant to section 10-145o of the general statutes, as
95 amended by this act, during the 2010-2011 school year, (2) who are not
96 eligible for a provisional educator certificate because such teachers
97 have not completed the teacher education and mentoring program,
98 and (3) who have renewed their initial educator certificates prior to the
99 effective date of this section, shall pay to the State Board of Education a
100 nonreturnable fee of seventy-five dollars for a provisional educator
101 certificate upon completion of the teacher education and mentoring
102 program.

103 Sec. 504. Subsection (g) of section 10-145o of the 2010 supplement to
104 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
105 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

106 (g) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (h) of this section,
107 for the school year commencing July 1, 2010, beginning teachers who
108 hold an initial educator certificate and have not participated in any
109 beginning educator program as of July 1, 2009, shall participate in the
110 teacher education and mentoring programs as follows:

111 (1) Beginning teachers in the following subject areas and
112 endorsement areas shall be required to successfully complete the

113 teacher education and mentoring program in full: Elementary
114 education, English and language arts, mathematics, science, social
115 studies, special education, bilingual education, music, physical
116 education, visual arts, health, world languages and teachers of English
117 as a second language.

118 (2) Beginning teachers in any other endorsement area and whose
119 primary function is providing direct instruction to students shall be
120 required to successfully complete one year of mentorship and two
121 instructional modules."